



# Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

November 9, 2017, 7:30pm  
Supervisor's Conference Room, Town Hall

**Welcome & Introductions (12 minutes)** Sarah Deonarine (Director), Bob Keane (Chairman, Port Washington North), Chuck Idol (Baxter Estates), Dianne Sheehan (Plandome Heights), Pasqua Dziadul (Sands Point), Kevin Braun (Town of North Hempstead), Chris Shannon (Councilwoman DeGeorgio's office), Kate Hirsch (Flower Hill), Dan Fucci (Nassau Co), Jennifer Wilson-Pines (Manorhaven), Annie Mendelson (Great Neck), Nora Haagenon (Mayor, Baxter Estates)

<<quorum in attendance>>

**Meeting was called to order at 7:36pm with a quorum in attendance.**

Note: Action items are in **bold highlighted, underlined italics**. Motions are highlighted in blue.

## **Discussion & Motion points:**

**Meeting minutes:** Kevin Braun made motion to accept as final the minutes of September 12, 2017; Dianne Sheehan seconded. The motion passed. After the motion passed, there was a brief discussion and it was decided to keep the budget break-down out of the meeting minutes. However, a separate running total will be made available at each meeting.

Kevin Braun made motion to accept as final the minutes of October 14, 2017 after striking out the portion about the trust account and the reporting table. Kate Hirsch seconded and the motion passed.

**Website update:** Chuck Idol is working to get old pages functional and set-up so they are viewable on cell phones, tablets, etc. He has about 10 more pages to go until ready to discuss moving over to a new host. It was decided not to include member representative names and e-mail addresses on the membership page? Everyone was very appreciative of Chuck's work on this monumental task.

## **2018 dues:**

COUNTY OF NASSAU	45% of total	\$20,000
TOWN OF NORTH HEMPSTEAD	11% of total	\$5,000
MUNICIPALITIES <sup>1</sup>	44% of total	\$1,500 each
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TOTAL	100%	\$44,500

Kevin Braun made a motion to maintain dues at their current levels, Nora Haagenon seconded. None opposed and the motion passed starting the 60-day clock until the 2018 dues are considered final.

**Member representatives update:** Of the 15 members, all are very active on the Committee except for three. Deonarine will reach out to the three inactive Villages.

<sup>1</sup> The percentage break-down of dues per member is set through the Inter-Municipal Agreement (which was considered executed effective January 11, 2016) and will not be reconsidered until the next IMA.

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Committee project matrix: At the Committee's October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, a project matrix was requested in order to keep track of what projects the Committee has going on. The matrix is in Microsoft Excel, but was converted to pdf for ease of e-mailing (in the future, both formats will be available). The project matrix presented is still a work in progress, but there was some discussion and ideas of ways to improve the format and some projects to add:

- Use color and numbers so, when printed in black and white, it is still legible.
- Tie projects to recommendations from the water quality report.
- Sort the projects into categories (such as "E" for education projects) and make notes of what are MS4-related projects (it was noted that we need more public involvement projects).
- An additional project to add is accessing and converting the Lablite data into Excel.

During this discussion, it was announced that Erin Reilly will not be replaced and there will no longer be a Sustainability Coordinator at the Town.

### **Other updates:**

Replacing vandalized educational sign: The sign, with some minor corrections to grammar, is with IZone and is being fabricated. The original cost estimate was over \$1,000, but Deonarine was able to get IZone to lower the cost to just under \$1,000 – no motion was needed.

MS4 semi-annual progress reports are due 12/1 (covers 3/10 – 9/9)

Fuss & O'Neill final water quality report: Deonarine saw and commented on an updated cover, but we are still waiting the final package.

Long Island Sound Conference: Congressman Suozzi organized and held, along with Congresspeople DeLauro and Zeldin, a Long Island Sound Conference on October 20<sup>th</sup> at the Merchant Marine Academy. The purpose of the event was to look back on progress over the past 25 years and to recommit to restoring and protecting Long Island Sound. The event was well attended; Deonarine and several others from the Committee were there. There were presentations by scientists on current research and then the three congressionals talked about progress made over the past 25 years and what will be important in the future, with a strong emphasis on climate change and science. Afterwards, there was a press conference and everyone signed a commitment to LIS.

North shore embayment monitoring: No real updates, the north shore protection committees are still working to secure funding from all three pots: Environmental Protection Fund (line item), Department of Environmental Conservation (this is supposedly available, but nothing has been finalized), and the Long Island Sound Study.

### **Municipal updates**

Town of North Hempstead (Kevin Braun): The Town received \$18K from the Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District for Mill Pond *Phragmites* removal, replanting *Spartina*, and more *Phragmites* treatments next year.

Port Washington North – nothing new to report.

Manorhaven (Jennifer Wilson-Pines): Manorhaven is undertaking a sewer pipe project since maintenance hasn't been undertaken for a while. A seal visited Manhasset Bay earlier in the week; she posted the photos on Facebook. Seals were around in the 80s, but then water quality crashed. There has been a significant increase in the seal population.

Councilwoman DeGiorio's office (Chris Shannon): Chris attended the LI water conference and learned that local water districts will be doing a lot of capital improvements in the coming years, because most of

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the technology is from the 1960s. We're currently going through a drought, USGS thinks it has ended, but the plants take up rain over the summer and then it goes back into the atmosphere – so we won't see improvement in the aquifers (which are at their lowest levels since the 1960s) for a while.

Baxter Estates (Nora Haagenson): Baxter's Pond had fall clean-up and bulb planting on Sunday with about 20 volunteers. The Village is meeting with Assemblyman D'Urso and Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton to continue discussions on the erosion at Baxter Beach.

Flower Hill, Plandome Heights, and Nassau County – nothing new to report.

Chuck Idol: Great Neck WPCD gives a great presentation and walk-through. Port Washington WPCD is going to be upgrading a lot of things.

Great Neck (Annie Mendelson): A group came before the Village Board and asked if they could use some public spaces to install plants which attract butterflies. The Board approved.

Sands Point (Pasqua Dziadul): The Village has instituted a 6-month moratorium on building piers, floats, boat lifts, and docks for the winter.

State update: Governor Cuomo just announced a measure making available a maximum of \$10,000 per home for on-site upgrades. The individual Counties will administer it and, as such, have to notify the State of their intention to participate. There aren't many details, more are expected in the new year. Deonarine forwarded an e-mail about this announcement on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm**

**Upcoming meetings and events**: (no meeting in December) January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10, June 14

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